

# Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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## GERMANS CHRONICLE BIG ADVANCES; FRENCH DENY REPORTED LOSSES

**Fighting About Verdun Is Continuing With Unabated Fury—German Official Report Asserts Capture of Substantial Strip of French Territory.**

Berlin, March 11.—Announcement of successes in many quarters is embodied in the official statement issued this afternoon, by the war office.

Chief of these is capture of French positions 14 hundred yards wide and about two-thirds of a mile deep south of Ville-Aux-Bois, near Rheims.

The text of the statement follows:  
"Western front: Saxon regiments stormed with very slight losses strongly fortified positions in the wooded section southwest and south of Ville-Aux-Bois, 11 miles northwest of Rheims over a width of about 1,400 yards and a depth of about two-thirds of a mile. Twelve uninjured officers and 725 uninjured men fell into our hands. The booty consisted of one revolver cannon, five machine guns and 13 mine throwers.

"On the western bank of the Meuse (Verdun region) the last positions still held by the French in the Bois Des Corbeaux and the Bois De Cumieres were cleared of enemies. Enemy counter-attacks delivered with strong forces against the southern boundary of these woods and against the German positions further to the west broke down under the fire of our defenses. "On the eastern bank of the Meuse very lively artillery activity resigned especially in the neighborhood northeast of Bras to the west of the village of Vaux and at several points on the Woëvre plain.

"Through a direct hit by one of our anti-aircraft guns a French aeroplane fell down in flames between the mutual line southeast of Chateau Salines. The occupants were dead and were buried by us together with the remains of the machine."

"French official statements discount the claims of German success. The statements are in accord, however, that the battle about Verdun still is raging furiously."

## FRENCH DISCOUNT GERMAN CLAIMS OF MORE SUCCESS

Paris, March 11.—The text of the report on hostilities, given out by the French war office this afternoon, reads as follows:

"North of the river Aisne the enemy yesterday, after having bombarded for several hours our positions between Troyon and Berry-Au-Bac, moved out from Ville-Aux-Bois and attacked the salient formed by our line at Bois Des Buttes.

"After a very spirited fight we drove the enemy from the northwest-ern extremity as well as the western section of the wood. This was territory the Germans had succeeded in occupying."

"To the west of the river Meuse the Germans last night delivered a strong attack southeast of Bethincourt against our trenches along the high-way from Bethincourt to Chantannecourt. An immediate counter-attack gave us full possession of the important communication trench which the enemy had succeeded in penetrating."

"To the east of the Meuse the enemy has redoubled his efforts between the village of Vaux and the Vaux forts. The bombardment continued all night long with great violence and there were further infantry assaults against the village. The Germans took possession of some positions to the east of the village of Vaux. We are still in possession of the western part of the village and the efforts of the enemy in this direction all resulted in failure. As a result of several attacks against the fort itself the Germans some progress along the surrounding slopes but their efforts to reach the barbed wire entanglements in front of the fort were checked by our fire."

"In the Woëvre district there has been a continued and intense bombardment in the region of Eux and Moulainville.

"In Lorraine our artillery fire has caused serious damage to the works of the Germans near Ebernemul.

"In the Vosges, French batteries have been very active in the valley of the Thur and to the east of Thann."

**VIOLENT FIGHTING FOR  
FORT VAUX REPORTED**

Paris, March 11.—There is still violent fighting for the possession of the fort at Vaux, according to announcement of the French war office.

The Germans have made progress along the slopes leading to this position but they have not yet reached the barbed wire entanglements in front of the fort.

The Germans hold some houses in the eastern part of the village of Vaux while the French are still in possession of the western part of the town.

**CABINET RESIGNS  
TO LET NATION MAKE  
READY FOR DEFENSE**

Lisbon, March 11.—The Portuguese cabinet has resigned, to give place to a national defense government which is now being formed. In Parliament yesterday, Dr. Augusto Soares, foreign minister of the retiring cabinet, read the notes exchanged between Germany and Portugal and also a note from Great Britain requesting the Portuguese government, in view of the alliance between these nations, to seize German ships in Portuguese ports.

Tranquility prevails throughout the country.

## FIVE EPISCOPAL PARISHES WILL HOLD MISSIONS

**Elimination of Confusion and Vagueness Object of General Services.**

**BISHOP BREWSTER TO  
TALK AT ST. JOHN'S**

**Visiting Rectors Will Deliver  
Sermons on Topics of  
Import.**

The bishops of the Episcopal church have called on their clergy and people throughout the nation to hold a mission sometime this year, in every community where the Episcopal church is established. The diocese of Connecticut, like the majority of other dioceses, will hold its mission during this present Lent.

Of the seven parishes in Bridgeport, only two will hold a mission, because of the absence of rectors. The other five, St. Luke's on the East Side, Trinity, Christ church and St. John's in the center of the city, and St. George's in the West End, each will hold its own mission for its own people and its neighbors, this coming week.

The idea is, that there is throughout the country a general confusion and vagueness as to the real contents of the Christian religion. One characteristic of America is, there are so many different versions of Christianity that the public cannot find the Christian faith. The bishops of the Episcopal church felt that it was someone's duty to institute a systematic, intelligible, authentic instruction of religion for all who would appreciate it. And they called upon their clergy to arrange such an instruction, and to offer it to all people, of any church or no church.

A mission is very much like what in Protestant communities is called a "Revival," but with stronger emphasis on teaching. Its services are entirely unliturgical, that is, informal. They consist of congregational singing, extempore prayer, an instruction and a sermon, and frequently a "question-box," which always interests the public and throws light on their own questions.

A mission is a progressive affair, every service having its own place and importance in the course. To get the benefit it is essential that one start at the beginning and go through without a break. It is also important that those who are habitually not interested in religion shall be drawn into the mission by those who are.

It will be intensely interesting to see how the members of the Episcopal church throughout the country will hold of this great offensive, and also how largely it succeeds in getting the people at large into this, its first general mission.

St. George's church in the West End will hold the mission every night of next week except Saturday. The opening service is at 7:30 p. m. on Sunday, March 12; and the week-day services will be held at 8 o'clock each evening.

The missioner at St. George's will be the Rev. Frank H. Bigelow, rector of Christ church, Conn., who will be assisted by the rector of the parish, Rev. Henry E. Kelly.

A mission is intended quite as much for the general public as for the parishioners of the church in which it is held. The Rector's Guild has undertaken to pay all the expenses.

The principal services are those in the evening, but there will also be celebrations of Holy Communion daily at 7:30 and 10 a. m., and a mission service for school children on Friday at 4 o'clock.

At St. John's church there will be daily Holy Communion at 8 a. m. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday services will also be held at 10:30 a. m. and 5 p. m. Rev. Charles A. Tibbals, rector of St. John's church, Sandy Hook, will be the missioner.

The subjects and the days for the morning services will be: Monday, "The Temptation of Bread"; Tuesday, "The Temptation of Pride"; Wednesday, "The Temptation of Power." The afternoon service subjects will be "Leaving Home and the Far Country"; Tuesday, "Losing and Finding Oneself," and on Wednesday, "The Lost Righteousness."

Perhaps the most important series of services during Lent in the Episcopal churches will be the Bishop's services, held at St. John's church on Tuesday evenings, beginning March 21. These services, which will be held by the Bishop of Connecticut, Chauncey B. Brewster of this diocese will speak, will be open to everyone. They will begin promptly at 8 o'clock, opening with a short prayer service. A men's chorus will sing at the services.

Rev. Kenneth MacKenzie, rector of Christ Episcopal church, Westport, will conduct the mission services at St. Luke's church on Stratford avenue and Sixth street.

Services will be held every evening except Saturday at 7:45. Special services for children will be held at 4 o'clock on Friday afternoon and on Sunday afternoon at the same hour. An orchestra will play the accompaniment for the hymns. There will be no collections.

At St. George's church, Rev. John D. Skene, rector of St. Andrew's church, Stamford, will conduct the mission, assisted by Rev. John G. Sadtler, rector of the church. Services will be held every evening from Monday through Friday at 8 p. m. and a corporate communion will be presented on Sunday morning at 8 o'clock.

Rev. H. Page, assistant rector of St. Luke's church, New York, will be the missioner at Trinity church, Broad street and Fairfield avenue. Rev. C. W. Arson, rector of the church, will assist. The program for the week:

## VILLA RETREATS WITH 300 FOLLOWERS; AERO SQUAD TO JOIN HUNT

## NEW ST. LUKE'S CHURCH WILL BE UNDER WAY SOON

**Members Plan To Branch  
From Mission to Parish  
of Their Own.**

Plans for the new church, rectory and parish house for St. Luke's Episcopal church, which are being prepared in the southwest corner of Connecticut and Wilmot avenues. It will cost about \$50,000. As soon as the plans are complete, Rev. William H. Jepson, the rector will start a campaign to raise funds to build the church. The present church, parish house and rectory at Stratford avenue and Sixth street will be sold to add to the building fund.

At present St. Luke's is a mission of St. Paul's Episcopal church but it is intended to make it a parish as soon as the building campaign is begun. The new location is in the heart of the East End section.

## RAID SOKOL HALL ON ORDERS FROM COM. STANLEY

**Seven Arrested For Running  
Cabaret and Dance With-  
out License.**

Acting upon orders from President John C. Stanley of the police board, a squad of police descended upon Sokol hall at 10:30 last night and raided the barroom where liquor was being sold to patrons of a dance and cabaret given by James A. Brennan, prominent in boxing circles.

Brennan and six others were running a cabaret and dance. They were selling liquor without a license. The police squad consisted of Lieutenants John Browne, Capt. John H. Redgate and Sergeants Isaac Wheeler, Charles Wheeler and Thomas H. Flood.

The following members of the club were arrested: James A. Brennan, 29, bartender, 569 East Main street; Fred R. Hawthorne, 37, brazer, 544 Central avenue; Thomas Carter, age 30, 142 Asylum street, machine hand; William Madden, 24, 125 Sterling street, butcher; Chauncey Taylor, 36, butcher, 194 Nichols street; Harry Kane, 26, 595 Pembroke street, clerk; and Nelson Ryan, 29, bartender, Walnut beach.

Violating the liquor law by selling liquor without a license.

In city court this morning the case of each was continued until one week from today. Bonds in the case of Brennan were fixed at \$150 and in the other cases at \$25. All the accused were released, bonds being furnished by Walter Anderson, wholesale liquor dealer.

## ELI GRADUATES PLEDGE SELVES TO PREPARATION

Yale alumni throughout the Connecticut and New York are advocating preparedness through education. This movement reached Bridgeport last night through a reunion of the class of 1886, held in the Yale club, New York city last night.

At this reunion the Yale method, as advocated by Cornelius Vanderbilt, was again broached with the result that Compensation Commissioner Edmund T. Buckingham and Mortimer F. Comstock of this city have pledged themselves to propagate the new "preparedness idea" as disclosed by Vanderbilt.

The suggestion, which has met with general approbation in military and civilian circles, is that arrangements be made for the United States military authorities to have officers lecture publicly upon military tactics and other necessary adjuncts to warfare. By this means the technique necessary in warfare will be mastered by all, and with the possible introduction of military courses in the public schools will lead to great intellectual efficiency in time of necessity.

It is likely that under the stimulus of Buckingham and Comstock, active measures towards procuring the necessary military lectures for Bridgeport will be taken.

The Grand Trunk is reported to have declared an embargo on all grain shipments.

## VILLA SOLDIERS TO BE TRIED ON MURDER CHARGES

Columbus, N. M., March 11.—Seven wounded Villa soldiers captured by Col. H. J. Stocum's troops of the 13th U. S. Cavalry in Thursday battle here will be charged with murder for the killing of the seven American soldiers slain in the fight, according to an announcement today by E. B. Stone, special agent of the department of justice. The prisoners include a boy 12 years old and two officers, Stone said he would confer today with Summer Burkhardt, U. S. District Attorney of New Mexico and that the charges probably would name Francisco Villa who led the raid on Columbus.

The men against whom murder charges are to be filed are: Pablo Garcia, a captain who has fought in Villa's army for three years; Lieut. Yzabel Chavez, with two years' service under the insurgent chief, Leno Rouez; Elias Meras, and Antonio Morandes, privates. The boys' names are Jesus Reyes, who with his father Auselio Reyes, joined Villa three months ago in Chihuahua.

The death of Jesse Taylor, a wounded American soldier, yesterday at Fort Bliss, will be the basis for the eighth charge of murder against the prisoners who are all so badly wounded that a United States commissioner probably will be summoned from Deming or Albuquerque to arraign them as they lie in a hospital tent in camp here.

Stone declared the cases against the prisoners had been rendered particularly strong by the fact that evidence had been found, including papers taken from Villa's official correspondence, which was picked up on the battlefield to show that while Villa was approaching to make the raid on Columbus he addressed his troops, telling them to spare no Americans, to burn and loot the town and to make "human torches of every man, woman and child."

Jose Sanchez was picked up with 15 other Mexicans yesterday by cavalry patrols. Fourteen were released, some being ordered across the border as suspicious characters. Sanchez claimed to be a rancher but American soldiers made affidavits that he was signalling across the border. When he was searched a pair of field glasses was found under his jacket. Removal of his overall revealed a well-made gray military uniform.

## MEXICANS MAKE RAIDS ON BORDERLINE RANCH

Douglas, Ariz., March 11.—Further reports of the raid last night on American ranches south of Osborn Junction, Ariz., stated that a command of 200 men, some of whom had been drinking, were encamped for the night near Osborn, while on the way from Naco, Sonora, to Auga Prieta, Sonora. They amused themselves by robbing cattle and horses belonging to the American ranchers, whose property extended both sides of the international boundary.

Several horses and cattle ranging in Arizona were roped and dragged across the border. Other livestock which was roped and which the soldiers were unable to get across the border was shot on Arizona soil. The Mexicans did not cross the line themselves.

## AEROS WILL AID EXPEDITION IN LOCATING VILLA

San Antonio, Tex., March 11.—Maj. General Frederick Funston announced today that while he will have the direction of military affairs in the Mexican border, the expedition into Mexico to capture Francisco Villa will be in charge of a brigadier general. General Funston said the name of the commanding officer would be given out at Washington.

The full aero squadron stationed here will be dispatched with the expedition.

Organization of the expedition will not be completed for two or three days, General Funston said, as troops from other army divisions than the southern will be added to the border forces, going direct to the border.

## MORMON REFUGEES AWAIT PROTECTION BEFORE THEIR FLIGHT

El Paso, March 11.—The train which was to carry out the 500 Mormons from their colony near Casas Grueles has not started and will not start until a sufficient escort arrives from the garrison at Chihuahua City, according to General Gavira, commanding at Juarez, today.

## A. B. C. DIPLOMATS LOOK INTO CASE OF RAID OF VILLISTAS

Washington, March 11.—The ambassadors from Chili and Brazil, who took part in the Pan-American convention which resulted in the recognition of General Carranza, called on Secretary Lansing today to inquire about the action of the United States. They were informed but made no comment.

## Major General Funston Will Entrust Defensive Force To Brigadier General—Expedition Won't Start For Two or Three Days—New Raid on Border Town By Band of Mounted Mexicans—Carranza Seeks Authority To In- vade United States, If Need Be, To Pursue Bandits—Persching Likely To Lead Troopers Into Mexican Territory.

Washington, March 11.—With the unanimous support of the Senate committee on foreign relations formally extended to President Wilson, plans for the organization of a federal force to run down the band of Villista raiders went forward with rapidity today.

Major General Frederick Funston announced at San Antonio, today that he personally will not direct the expedition. A brigadier general, whose name he said would be announced in Washington, will take charge. He added that organization of the expedition will not be completed for two or three days, as troops from army divisions other than the southern will be added to the border forces.

It was generally understood that Brig. General John J. Persching will command the troops in the pursuit of Villa.

Co-operation between the Carranza forces and United States troops is indicated by a request, officially delivered, through Consul Silliman, from the Carranza government for permission to despatch Carranza troops into American territory, if emergencies arise through which the capture of raiders would thus be expedited.

Meantime comes from Malpais, 18 miles east of Columbus, the report of another raid. Eighteen mounted Mexicans are reported as having raided the home of H. A. Blankenship, a section foreman. The family, including two children, escaped into underbrush, and spent the night in cold and darkness, but are little the worse for their experience.

of Americans at Santa Ysabel. A total of 57 dead Mexicans have been found in and about Columbus, General Funston reported.

Washington, March 11.—Instructions conveying full authority to General Funston to despatch a defensive expedition into Mexico in pursuit of Villa and his bandits are today in General Funston's hands.

Secretary Baker announced that full discretion as to the number of men to be used against the raiders, followed has been left to General Persching.

Secretary Baker specifically referred to the expedition as "defensive" in line with the administration's policy of regarding its action as one to repel invasion.

## CARRANZA SEEKS RIGHT TO CROSS BOUNDARY TO PURSUE VILLA BANDITS

Washington, March 11.—General Carranza, through Consul Silliman, has asked the American government for permission to send Mexican troops across the border and into the United States in pursuit of bandits.

Consul Silliman transmitted the following communication dated at Guadalajara, March 10, which was handed to him by J. Acuna, Carranza's minister for foreign affairs. It is a reply to the American government's representations for permission to pursue the Villa bands with American forces:

"In due reply to your courteous note, dated yesterday and transmitted today through Mr. John W. Balt, (Silliman's secretary) I will say I have the honor to inform you that I have brought the above note to the attention of the first chief of the Constitutional army and in the history of executive power of Mexico, he has directed me to say to you to the end that you may, in turn, transmit it to the department of state of the American government, that he learned from the territory of one of the above states at the request of the governor of the state and the Constitutionalist consul in El Paso, Tex., the first chief ordered the timely departure of 2,500 men commanded by General Luis Gutierrez with instructions to actively pursue the bandits who had just crossed the line into American territory, which they undoubtedly did, compelled by the tenacious pursuit of the above mentioned forces.

"In the above lamentable incident is seen the incursions which were made in the states of Sonora and Chihuahua. The incursions in the state of Sonora occurred, more or less, about the year 1889 when Germano, the Indian chief, who died not many years ago in Fort Mount, Ala., led a numerous horde and invaded part of the state of Sonora, committing many murders and depredations of the life and property of many Mexicans. After a long and tenacious chase by American and Mexican forces the band of malefactors was annihilated and its chief was captured.

"The incursion into Chihuahua led by the Indian chief, Victoria, commanding about 800 Indians, took place between the years 1884 and 1886. Then the bands of marauders, committing also many crimes, went into the country as far as the villages of Tejocillo or Tres Castillos, very near the capital of Chihuahua, and during the first formal encounter between them and Mexican forces, after having lost their chief, they were dispersed.

"In these two occasions through an agreement between the governments of the United States and Mexico it was decided that the armed forces of one and the other country might freely cross from the territory of one to the other in pursuit and for the purpose of punishing the above named bands of marauders. Recalling these precedents and the good results for both countries on account of the above mentioned first chief, anxious to exterminate within the least possible time the hordes led by Francisco Villa, who has been recently placed beyond the law, and to capture him to apply a condign punishment, applies to you as confidential agent and addresses the government of the United States, requesting the necessary permission for Mexican forces to cross into American territory if the incursion which took place in Columbus should, unfortunately, be repeated in any other point of the boundary lines. The Mexican government would greatly appreciate a prompt and favorable reply from the government of the United States.

"Please accept, Mr. Confidential Agent, the assurances of my high consideration. (Signed) J. Acuna, secretary in charge of foreign affairs."